CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1.   A method for selectively entering lottery entries into a state lottery drawing via an internet web site, the method comprising the steps of:

        entering the home page of the web site;

        querying users for their sign-in identification to establish whether they are pre-registered user members or non-members;

        presenting pre-registered user members with a choice of member functions and content;

        presenting non-members with a choice of different functions and content;

        presenting both members and non-members with a choice of common functions and content.

2.   The method set forth in claim 1 wherein member choice of functions and content include depositing funds into the members pre-established accounts; and

        permitting the members to select an offered lottery game to play after a choice is made as to payment thereof.

3.   The method set forth in claim 1 wherein the member choices of functions and content includes accessing a member's account for selectively determining its current balance, history of wins and loses, and subscriptions for play that are currently active.

4.   The method set forth in claim 1 wherein the non-members choice of functions and content includes the establishment of an account for future play.

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5.   The method set forth in claim 1 wherein the common functions and content for members and non-members selectively includes accessing information concerning: the web site, gambling addiction, and descriptions of the games that may be played.

6.   A method for selectively entering lottery entries into a state lottery drawing via an internet web site, the method comprising the steps of:

accessing an internet web site server;

connecting the web server to a transaction server via a security firewall;

selectively connecting the transaction server to a state lottery system either through:

a) a modem connection;

b) direct high speed connection; or

c) an intermediary manual re-entry of member orders from members, received at the web site.

7.   A system for selectively entering lottery entries into a state lottery drawing via an internet web site, the system comprising:

means for entering the home page of the web site;

means for querying users for their sign-in identification to establish whether they are pre-registered user members or non-members;

means for presenting pre-registered user members with a choice of member functions and content;

means for presenting non-members with a choice of different functions and content; and

means for presenting both members and non-members with a choice of common functions and content.

1   8.   The system of claim 7 wherein the means for presenting member choice of

2   functions and content comprises:

3   means for depositing funds into the members pre-established accounts; and

4   means for permitting the members to select an offered lottery game to play

5   after a choice is made as to payment thereof.

1   9.   The system of claim 7 wherein the means for presenting member choice of

2   functions and content comprises:

3   means for accessing a member's account for selectively determining its

4   current balance, history of wins and loses, and subscriptions for play that are

5   currently active.

1   10.   The system of claim 7 wherein the means for presenting non-member choice

2   of functions and content comprises means for establishing an account for future

3   play.

1   11.   The system of claim 7 wherein the means for presenting member and non-

2   member choice of functions and content comprises means for accessing information

3   concerning: the web site, gambling addiction, and descriptions of the games that

4   may be played.

1   12.   A system for selectively entering lottery entries into a state lottery drawing

2   via an internet web site, the system comprising:

3   means for accessing an internet web site web server; and

4   means connecting the web server to a transaction server via a security

5   firewall;

6   means for selectively connecting the transaction server to a state lottery

7   system either through:

8   a) a modem connection;

9   b) direct high speed connection; or

10   c) an intermediary manual re-entry of member orders received from

11   members at the web site.